GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES AND MINERALS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:561
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2000
SHORTAGE OF COAL STOCKS IN COAL MINES
RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY

Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any shortfall in the coal stocks of the Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) and the Bharat CokingCoal Limited (BCCL) has been found;

(b) if so, the number of cases of shortage in coal stocks detected in various coal mines of CCL and BCCL during thelast three years and the current year alongwith the number of persons penalised in this regard;

(c) the existing rules to penalise the guilty officers/employees for the shortage in the coal stocks; and

(d) the measures taken so far by the Government to check the irregularities in the coal stocks?

Answer

MINISTER OF MINES & MINERALS

(SHRI P R KUMARAMANGALAM)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in the reply to parts (a) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 561 for answer on

5.5.2000.

(a) During the last three years of 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99, coal stock shortages to the extent of 18.00 lakh tonnes of coal in 24 collieries of BCCL and 0.14 lakh tonne of coal in 2 collieries of CCL were detected.

(b) For the above cases of coal stock shortages, 4 employees of Central Coalfields Limited (CCL)and 64 employees of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL)were proceeded against. While the disciplinary cases against 4 employees of CCL are continuing, penalties were imposed and administrative action taken against 8 employees of BCCL.As regards the remaining employees of BCCL, cases against 7 of them were closed, 13 of them were exonerated and cases against 36 employees are in progress.

(c) Whenever there is shortage of more than 5% and the absolute quantum of shortage is more than 1,000 tonnes, disciplinary action is initiated against the delinquent employees as per the relevant provisions of the Conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules, 1978 applicable to executives of Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries.For the non-executive employee, disciplinary action is taken as per the certified standing orders applicable to the employee concerned.

(d) To check the irregularities in the coal stock following steps have been taken:-

i) Monthly measurement of coal stock at colliery level.
ii) Quarterly measurement of coal stock by the area level teams.
iii) Half yearly measurement of coal stock by respective company headquarter level teams.
iv) Annual measurement of coal stock of all the mines of CIL, from CIL level coal inventory teams.
v) Checking measurement of around 10% of the stock measurement at the mines being carried out by engaging outside personnel i.e. team leaders and surveyors from M/s Indian Bureau of Mines, M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited and M/s Mineral Exploratior Corporation Limited who have competent personnel for this specialised job.
vi) Check measurement to check the credibility of measuring team in case of units having large stocks.
vii) The pit head stocks have been reduced to around normative level in order to have better management of stock. In CCL, stocks holding came down to 5.05 million tonnes in 1996-97 to 4.34 million tonnes in 1999-2000. Similarly at BCCL, stocks holding came down from 5.38 million tonnes during 1997-98 to 3.28 million tonnes in 1999-2000 and in ECL, from 4.30 million tonnes in 1998-99 to 3.06 million tonnes in 1999-2000.
viii) Installation of electronic rail weighbridges with print out as well as road weighbridges whereby now around 90% of total despatches are passing through weighbridges.

ix) It has been decided to engage an outside independent agency as a consultant for the year 2000-01 to suggest accounting system

relating to coal stocks.